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East Germany

COUNTRY _____ REPORT _____

TOPIC _____ Military Information from the Templin Training Area

618423

EVALUATION _____

PLACE OBTAINED _____

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DATE OF CONTENT _____

DATE OBTAINED _____

DATE PREPARED 19 March 1954

REFERENCES _____

PAGES _____ ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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3 AA guns and 4 heavy mortars proceeded toward Vogelsang, coming from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau. On 20 January, a column of 6 trucks towing 122-mm field howitzers passed through Templin, coming from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau and proceeding toward Vogelsang. On 21 January, a column of 7 trucks towing 122-mm field howitzers returned from Vogelsang, proceeding toward Eberswalde or Prenzlau. On 22 January, a column of 5 trucks towing 3 x 152-mm guns

was seen en route in the same direction. On 31 January, 1 armored scout car and 6 trucks, occupied by about 150 troops

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went to Vogelsang, coming from the direction of Eberswalde or Prenzlau. On 1 February, 5 T-34/85 tanks passed through Templin, coming from Vogelsang and proceeding toward Lychen. On 5 February, truck towing a gun of about 130-mm went from Eberswalde or Prenzlau to Vogelsang.

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Between 7 and 19

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February, units from Eberswalde or Prenzlau held firing practices at the Templin training grounds on several days. On 7 February, reports of rocket launchers and other guns were heard. In the evening, 6 trucks towing AT guns returned from Kannenburg and proceeded toward Eberswalde or Prenzlau. On 10 February, 15 trucks occupied by troops, towing 10 heavy mortars

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arrived from Eberswalde or Prenzlau. On 13 February, 7 trucks towing 3 heavy mortars came from the same direction. 1

2. Between 10 January and 9 February, Camps Hammelspring and Kannenburg were occupied by guard details only. No exercises were observed in the adjacent training area.
3. Between 20 and 27 January, all was quiet at the Kannenburg firing range. The units, who occupied the camp on 11 January, had left.

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4. According to an order of mid-January, no wood was to be cut on the right side of the Fuerstenberg-Granssee railroad line. The measure affected the districts of the Neuhoef, Fuerstenberg, Steinfoerde and Schoenhorn forestries. Between 23 and 27 January, artillery officers surveyed this area and subsequently left for Fuerstenberg. The staked-out lines appeared to indicate trench positions and artillery emplacements. 3

5. Motor vehicles seen on the Vogelsang-Zehdenick road en route to and from Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang

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6. On 23 February, the Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang, which was built in 1953, was occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

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additional permanent quarters were scheduled to be built southwest and northeast of the installations during the years between 1954 and 1957, with 18 garages to be built northeast of the installations in 1954. The workers' camp south of the installation was being enlarged. 2

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1. Comment.

small units of the 25th Tank Div, probably from Frenzlau, conducted advanced combat firing practices at the Templin training grounds between mid-January and mid-February. During the exercises, the troops presumably were quartered in Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang, as had already previously been observed. The firing practices are confirmed by a previous report from Templin and observations in Frenzlau.

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2. Comment. According to available information, Neue Kaserne northwest of Vogelsang is currently occupied by the 11th Tank Regt of the 25th Tank Div. The strength figure in paragraph 6, therefore, is 100 percent too high. It was repeatedly reported that additional military installations were scheduled to be built in the area mentioned.

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3. Comment. Compare with information of early January.

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